AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

In this arrangement, during the descent phase, instead of replenishing the tanks with a mixture of ambient air derived from the vent system, in combination with nitrogen-enriched air from the air-separation device, the air-separation device is operated to provide a high flow rate of nitrogen-enriched air in which the concentration of nitrogen is relatively low, compared to that in the nitrogen-enriched air is operated to provide a high flow rate of nitrogen-enriched air in which the concentration of nitrogen-enriched air in which the